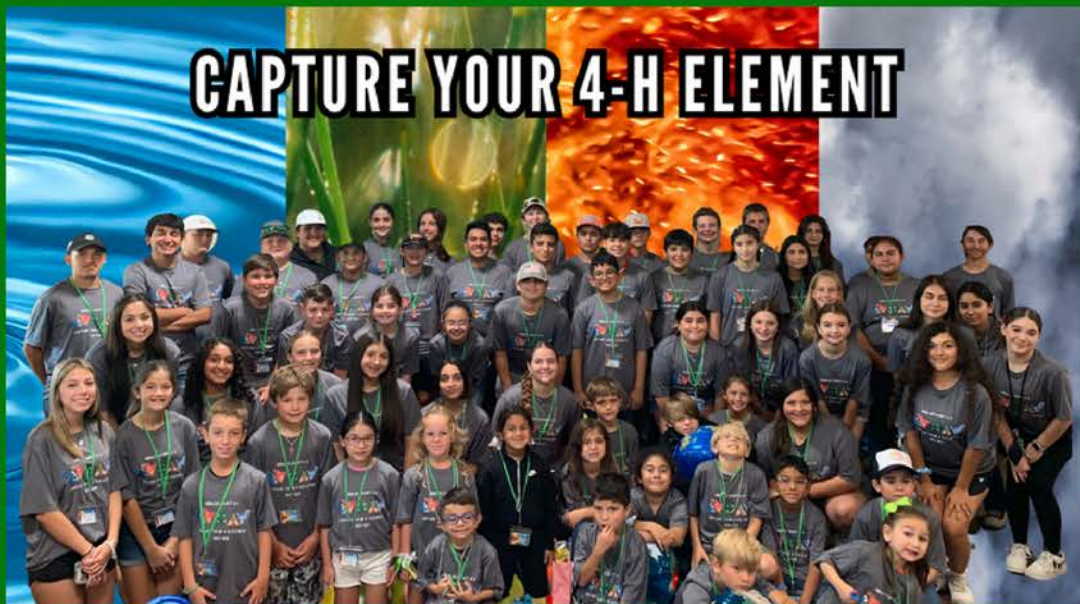




# 4-H TIMES



The official monthly newsletter of the Hidalgo County 4-H Program

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Hidalgo County 4-H Program  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service-Hidalgo County  
410 N. 13th Ave ~ Edinburg, Texas ~ 78541  
(956)-383-1026 ~ <http://hidalgo.agrilife.org>  
 @HidalgoCounty4H

## "PUTTING OUR BEST HOOF FORWARD"

As spring arrives across the state, March brings opportunities for 4-H members to showcase their livestock projects at shows. The hard work of daily feeding, grooming and training pays off as our 4-Her's show off their projects. For all those readying their herds for upcoming shows, best of luck and remember that representing your county with pride and sportsmanship is the greatest reward.

We have a new Facebook page please refer to end of the newsletter! Also join our Remind App Group for the latest 4-H Updates.

All the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agents here in Hidalgo County are here to help in any way with your projects, contests or information you may need, just give us a call at (956) 383-1026.

Thank you to all our parents and volunteers for helping our 4-Her's succeed!

Sincerely,

*Hidalgo County  
Extension Agent Team*





# Coming Soon...

**MARCH**

See Flyer for details

Mar 3-17

Mar 20

Mar 26

District 12 Postal League;

District 12 Photography Judging

Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show and Rodeo

Hidalgo County award applications due

4-H County Council and Adult Leaders Meeting

**APRIL**

Apr 2-4

See Flyer

Apr 6

Apr 6

Apr 11

Apr 27

Apr 23

Hidalgo County 4-H Award Interviews

State Photography Deadline

District 12 Fashion Sensation

District 12 Roundup

District 12 Livestock Judging

District 12 Shooting Sports Rifle (3P & Silhouette) Match

County Council and Adult leaders Meeting



**César  
Chávez  
Day!**

**“To make a great dream come true, the first requirement is a great capacity to dream; the second is persistence.”**

**-Cesar Chavez**





# Hidalgo County 2023-2024 4-H Calendar of Events

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE

**\*\* Dates & Locations are subject to change\*\***

## July 2023

07/12	District 12 Record Book Judging
07/9-07/14	State Games: Pistol and Rifle Match
07/16 - 07/22	State Games: Archery Match
07/18 - 07/23	State Games: Shotgun Match
TBD	Hidalgo County Club Manager Training

## August 2023

08/10	4-H Leadership Workshop
08/22	Hidalgo County 4-H Livestock Judging Workshop
08/22	4-H County Council Kick Off Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting
TBD	Lamb & Goat Tag Order Deadline for Major Shows
TBD	Heifer UIN Order Deadline for Major Shows

## September 2023

09/09	County Food Show/Food Challenge Workshop (Mandatory for Food Challenge)
09/23	Hidalgo County 4-H Foundation Hoedown
TBD	Swine Tag Order Deadline for Major Shows
09/26	Hidalgo County 4-H Consumer Decision Making Workshop
09/26	County Council Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting

## October 2023

10/07	La Muneca Field Day & Livestock Judging Contest
10/08	One Day 4-H
10/14	County Food Show/Food Challenge
10/19	County Consumer Decision Making Contest (Invitational)
10/21	Lamb, Goat & Heifer Validation for Majors
10/24	Hidalgo County 4-H Horticulture & Record Book Workshop
10/24	County Council Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting

## November 2023

11/01-11/02	Path to the Plate Youth Expo (KKM)
TBD	Commercial Heifer Validation
11/11	District 12 Food Show/Food Challenge
11/11	District 12 Consumer Decision Making
TBD	Hog Validation @ ECISD Ag Farm
11/28	Ag. Product ID Workshop
11/28	County Council Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting

## December 2023

12/02	District 12 Shooting Sports (Modified 600 & 3D) Archery Match
12/02	County Fashion Show Workshop (Mandatory for Duds to Dazzle)
12/02	RGVLS Gala
12/12	Storyboard Workshop & County Council Christmas
12/15-12/16	RGVLS Vegetable & Citrus Show (Ag. Product ID Contest)
12/20	County Fashion Show Workshop 2 (Mandatory for Duds to Dazzle)

## January 2024

01/23	County Council Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting
01/25	Hidalgo County 4-H Photography Judging
01/26	Hidalgo County 4-H Fashion Show & Public Speaking
01/27	Hidalgo County 4-H Duds to Dazzle, Share the Fun & Ed. Presentation
01/29	Hidalgo County 4-H Award Applications go live

## February 2024

02/01 - 02/03	S.T.A.R (www.gostar.org)
02/08 - 02/25	San Antonio Livestock Show
02/27	County Council Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting
TBD	S.T.A.R Gala

## March 2024

TBD	District 12 Shooting Sports - Postal League
TBD	District 12 Photography Contest (Virtual)
TBD	District 12 Shooting Sports - Trap Skeet & Whiz Bang
03/07-03/17	RGVLS
03/20	Hidalgo County Award Applications Due
03/26	County Council & Adult Leaders Meeting

## April 2024

04/02-04/04	Hidalgo County 4-H Award Interviews
TBD	State Photography Deadline
TBD	District 12 Fashion Sensation
TBD	District 12 Roundup
TBD	District 12 Livestock Judging
TBD	District 12 Shooting Sports Rifle (3P & Silhouette) Match
04/23	County Council Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting (Election Con.)

## May 2024

TBD	Hidalgo County 4-H Achievement Night
05/09	County Record Book Workshop
05/28	County Council Meeting Officer Induction/Adult Leaders Meeting

## June 2024

06/05 - 06/06	County Record Books Due
06/12 - 06/14	County Record Book Judging
TBD	Texas 4-H State Roundup
TBD	District 12 4-H Leadership Lab
TBD	District 12 4-H Election Convention

**\*Please refer to Monthly Newsletter for details on upcoming events at:**  
<https://hidalgo.agriife.org/4-h-youth-development/4-h-times-newsletters/>





CAPTURE YOUR 4-H ELEMENT

2023-2024

# Welcome to Hidalgo County 4-H 2023-2024

**The Hidalgo County Council Officers would like to welcome you to a new 4-H year! We believe in 4-H when you move swiftly as the wind, closely-formed as the wood, attack like the fire and are still as the mountain this allows members to generate a mind that is open. Therefore this year's 4-H Theme is: "Capture your 4-H Element"**

**We invite all 4-Her's and their parents to join us this year at our County Council Meetings and Adult Advisory Board Meetings to learn about new 4-H opportunities, plan or lead new events, and have fun!**

**See you at our March 26, 2024 County Council Meeting!**





TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

## 2023-2024 County Council Monthly Meeting Schedule

**MORE MEETINGS! MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUN!**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2023  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024  
TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024 (Council Officer Declarations)

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024 (Council Officer Elections)

All Meetings at  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office  
Hidalgo County  
7pm - 8pm



# Hidalgo County 4-H ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT

## SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY  
MAY 3 2024

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

**STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS**



## COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY\*



— 3rd Annual —  
**HOME &  
GARDEN  
SHOW**  
— RIO GRANDE VALLEY —



# KIDS garden Booth

**March 22nd - March 24**

**JOIN THE HIDALGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS  
AT THE RGV HOME AND GARDEN SHOW TO HELP  
WITH A YOUTH GARDENING ACTIVITY**



**TEXAS**

**MASTER GARDENER**

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Hidalgo County

For details or to volunteer contact Ashley Gregory

956.383.1026 or

[ahgregory@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:ahgregory@ag.tamu.edu)

\*open to Intermediates & Seniors only



# 4-HER'S IN ACTION





# 4-HER'S IN ACTION





# 4-HER'S IN ACTION





# 4-HER'S IN ACTION





# District 12 4-H INFORMATION

Don't forget to check the District 12 website for events and deadline updates!

For all District 12 4-H Contest and registration information go to:  
<https://agrillife.org/d124h/>

**2024 District 12 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST**

**Registration:**  
2/27/24 - 3/21/24

**Theme:**  
"Abandoned"

**Prizes:**  
48 Best of Class  
• Rosettes  
3 Best of Show  
• Camera Bag (+/- \$100 Value)  
1 Grand Champion  
• DSLR Camera Kit (+/- \$500 Value)



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.  
The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Government/County of Texas Cooperating.

**2024 District 12 4-H Trap, Skeet & Whiz-Bang Shoot**  
March 23, 2024 - Mission Skeet & Trap Club - Mission, Texas

**TRAP**  
**SCOOT**  
**WHIZ BANG**

Expanding Shooting Sports Opportunities for 4-H members in South Texas - OPEN STATEWIDE

**Date:** Saturday, March 23, 2024  
**Location:** Mission Skeet & Trap Club - 1306 S. Conway Ave. - Mission, Texas  
**Match:** 150 Targets: Trap (50) Skeet (50) Whiz-Bang (50)  
**Fee:** \$180 per 4-H member (250 targets)  
**Registration:** February 13-March 7, 2024 - *Limited to first 200 shooters - No onsite registration*  
**Process:** Step 1) *Visit Online to Register & Pay* - (<http://v2.4nonline.com>)  
Step 2) *Go to the Range* - (<http://v2.4nonline.com>)  
**Rules:** Texas 4-H Shotgun Rules  
**Divisions:** Junior, Intermediate, Senior 1 & Senior 2 (no ladies allowed)

**March 23rd**  
**Mission Texas** **\$120**  
**OPEN** **3 Events**  
**STATEWIDE**

**Rules, Guidelines, & Additional Info**  
<http://d124h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/shooting-sports/>  
3401 E. HIGHWAY 83 - WELACO, TEXAS 77956 - F 936-969-5381 - F 936-969-5839 - D124H@TAMU.EDU



**JIM WELLS COUNTY 4-H INVITATIONAL AG PRODUCT ID CONTEST**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH**

Jim Wells County Fairgrounds  
 Merchant's Building  
 (3001 S. Johnson St., Alice, TX)

Registration will be from 1:15pm with the contest beginning at 2:00p.m. Contest is open to 4-H & FFA Members

Registration deadline is Monday March 4th.  
 Registration is \$10/Individual or \$40/Team. After March 4th, Registration fees are \$15/Individual and \$50/Team.

Awards for Top 3 teams and individuals in the Clover Kid, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Divisions. Top 3 individuals will be also be awarded to the Adult Division.

Checks can be made out and mailed to:  
 Jim Wells County 4-H  
 PO Box 1370  
 Alice, TX 78333  
 PH: 361-668-5705  
 Terress.lopez@ag.tamu.edu

Scan to Enter

**TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION**



**The Ultimate Teen Summit**  
**March 13-17, 2024**  
**Washington, D.C.**

**ignite by 4H**

**Spark your imagination and passion!**



**2024 TEXAS 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST**

**SENIOR 4-H MEMBERS**  
**15 CATEGORIES**  
**4HONLINE ENTRY: APRIL 1-15, 2024**  
**\$250 PER BEST OF SHOW**

See website for complete rules and eligibility:  
<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/>

**TEXAS 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY**



**TEXAS 4-H**

**APERTURE ACADEMY**

LEARN PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES

**JULY 7-10**  
**TEXAS 4-H CONFERENCE CENTER**  
**Brownwood, TX**  
**Grades 6-8**

Join us this summer for a fun and exciting camp where youth will learn the basics of photography. This camp is geared for beginners and promises hands-on learning in an engaging camp atmosphere.

**\$300 EARLYBIRD REGISTRATION ENDS APRIL 15**

Register online at [texas4hcenter.tamu.edu](https://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu)  
 All camera equipment and supplies provided during camp.

Individuals who require any type of accommodation in order to participate in this program are encouraged to contact the Texas 4-H Center at (254) 756-5442 to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made. Educational programs of the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, The United States Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



**NEW!**

**PROFILE PHOTO**

**HIDALGO COUNTY 4-H**

**FACEBOOK PAGE**

**JOIN**

**SHARE**





**Need to stay up to date on 4-H Deadlines? Join our group on the Remind App.**

**Send a Text to: 81010**

**Text the Message: @hc4had**

**USDA** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Find Your  
Future  
With Us

### Want to explore exciting careers in agriculture? Apply for AgDiscovery 2024!

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers this summer outreach program for middle and high school students. It's a unique chance to live and study on a college campus and get a first-hand look at the many career paths open in the agricultural sciences.

#### 2024 Locations and Dates

- Alcorn State University, June 9-22
- Coppin State University, July 14-26
- Delaware State University, July 7-20
- Florida A&M University, June 9-22
- Fort Valley State University, June 10-21
- Fresno State University, June 10-20
- Iowa State University, July 7-20
- Kentucky State University, June 9-22
- Lincoln University, July 7-20
- North Carolina State University, June 17-28
- Prairie View A&M University, June 3-14
- Purdue University, July 7-19
- South Carolina State University, June 9-21
- Tuskegee University, June 2-15
- University of Arizona, June 10-22
- University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, June 8-21
- University of Hawaii, July 7-20
- University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley, June 22-July 3
- University of the Virgin Islands, July 14-27
- Virginia State University, June 16-30

Learn more about AgDiscovery



Learn More: [www.aphis.usda.gov/careers](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/careers)

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. | APHIS-26407 | Issued January 2024



### LAMAR COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

**MARCH 5TH, 2024**

RED RIVER VALLEY FAIR GROUNDS  
570 E CENTER ST, PARIS, TX 75460

Registration: 8:00AM  
Contest starts: 9:00AM  
Awards to follow

\$35 for individual  
\$100 team (3-4 people)

Age Divisions:  
Junior: 3rd-5th  
Intermediate: 6th-8th  
Senior: 9th-12th

Buckles will be given to high point individuals along with prizes to 2nd and 3rd place individuals.  
Winning teams will get banners along with prizes for each team member.

Enter online at  
[judgingcard.com](http://judgingcard.com)  
entries close March 1st

10 classes of market and breeding  
3 Questions classes  
NO REASONS

For more information contact:  
Jaci Eaves: [jaci.eaves@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:jaci.eaves@ag.tamu.edu) or (903)-737-2443  
Corey Gray: [corey@parisfarmandranch.com](mailto:corey@parisfarmandranch.com) or  
(903)-272-4653



Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



Monday, April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

*Experiencing an eclipse is one way that students and the public can participate in NASA Science while witnessing a rare eclipse event.*

### SOLAR ECLIPSE WEBINAR January 23, 2024 12-1pm ET

Please join NASA's Science Mission Directorate, Office of Communications and Office of STEM Engagement for an informational webinar and an update on the plan for the April Eclipse. In this webinar, you will learn about:

- The science behind solar eclipses
- Connections to NASA's study of the Sun
- How to view eclipses safely
- NASA's latest plan for public and student engagement

To Register Visit: [nvtc.jsc.nasa.gov/RSVP/?id=mdbdj](https://nvtc.jsc.nasa.gov/RSVP/?id=mdbdj)



[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)



## UPCOMING SPRING AND SUMMER EVENTS

### 4-H NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM

- 4-H WILDLIFE & FISHERIES PROJECT WORKSHOP - COLLEGE STATION - MARCH 23
- WOODLAND CLINIC - NACOGDOCHES - APRIL 18
- FORESTRY PROJECT TRAINING FOR COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS - LUFKIN - APRIL 30-MAY 2
- 4-H WILDLIFE HABITAT (WHEP) STATE CONTEST - TBD - MAY 11-12
- 4-H WILDLIFE CHALLENGE (ROUNDUP) - COLLEGE STATION - JUNE 6
- 4-H OUTDOOR CHALLENGE - RICHMOND - JUNE 15-16
- WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CAMP - JOHNSON CITY - JULY 15-20

#### 4-H NATURAL RESOURCES WEBPAGES:

[HTTPS://TEXAS4-H.TAMU.EDU/PROJECT-CATEGORY/NATURAL/](https://TEXAS4-H.TAMU.EDU/PROJECT-CATEGORY/NATURAL/)

#### 4-H NATURAL RESOURCES FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM:

- [FACEBOOK.COM/TX4HNATURALRESOURCES](https://www.facebook.com/TX4HNATURALRESOURCES)

- [INSTAGRAM.COM/TX4HNATRES](https://www.instagram.com/TX4HNATRES)

Contact Larry Hysmith at [lhysmith@tamu.edu](mailto:lhysmith@tamu.edu) with questions



## Lone Star 4-H Splash Camp

presented by

Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors



April 26-28, 2024

Texas 4-H State Conference Center, Lake Brownwood



\* Open to 6th - 8th grade students \*

Take the plunge for a fun-filled weekend with the Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors. Immerse yourself in hands-on and interactive water activities and expand your knowledge and appreciation of all things WATER. Make new friends and lasting memories!

Registration open February 5 - April 5 on the Texas 4-H @ <https://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu/>

Check-in: Friday, April 26 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm  
Pick-up: Sunday, April 28 11:00 am

Cost: \$210 per camper (includes 2 nights dorm lodging, meals, t-shirt, water bottle and activities)



Adult Chaperones Needed. (Chaperones may attend free of charge but must register and be approved Texas 4-H Adult Volunteers.)



#### CAMP ACTIVITIES

Camp activities are led by Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors and Texas 4-H Conference Center staff. Activities will include:

- Water Fair
- Fishing
- Kayaking
- Seining
- Water model building
- High ropes course
- Dance & games
- & much more!



The Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program provides resources, means and opportunities for youth to learn, lead and teach others about water. [www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com](http://www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com)

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Family Communications Center of Texas Cooperating.

2024 Lone Star 4-H Splash Camp



## CAPITAL FARM CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP

CAPITAL FARM CREDIT IS COMMITTED TO THE GROWTH OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF TEXAS. OUR CUSTOMER-OWNED COOPERATIVE WAS FOUNDED OVER 100 YEARS AGO WITH THE PRIMARY MISSION OF PROVIDING A RELIABLE SOURCE OF CREDIT. TODAY, WE SUCCESSFULLY FINANCE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS, AGRIBUSINESS FIRMS, AND RURAL PROPERTY OWNERS AND HOMEOWNERS ACROSS THE STATE.

KEEPING IN LINE WITH OUR DEDICATION TO THE GROWTH OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL COMMUNITIES, WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL BE AWARDING \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS TO GRADUATING SENIORS FROM RIO GRANDE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOLS WHO ARE SEEKING AN AGRICULTURAL-RELATED DEGREE. TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP, STUDENTS MUST MEET THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

- [Apply here](#)
- Deadline is March 29, 2024
- If you or any student have any questions regarding our application, please feel free to contact Jacob Ledbetter or Letisha Sanchez at (956) 383-1488.





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[85f33528bfc50816]

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## TEXAS 4-H POULTRY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

JUNE 24-27, 2024 ~ COLLEGE STATION, TX

EMBRACING OUR PAST.

ENGAGING OUR PRESENT.

DEFINING OUR FUTURE.

Today, the average American is at least three generations removed from the farm. It is essential that the upcoming generation be able to bridge the gap between consumer and farmers.

Through collegiate level training combined with hands-on experience, Ambassadors will be equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to serve as stewards of the livestock industry.



### DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INDUSTRY LEADERS

- Obtain opportunities to serve in advocacy roles for animal agriculture, 4-H, and junior livestock programs
- Experience in the university setting through intensive, science-based instruction and hands-on-learning
- Develop a heightened awareness of career opportunities in animal agriculture and advocacy



TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

TYLA  
TEXAS YOUTH LIVESTOCK & AGRICULTURE

## TEXAS 4-H LIVESTOCK AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

JUNE-JULY, 2024 ~ THREE SHORT COURSE LOCATIONS

EMBRACING OUR PAST.

ENGAGING OUR PRESENT.

DEFINING OUR FUTURE.

Today, the average American is at least three generations removed from the farm. It is essential that the upcoming generation be able to bridge the gap between consumer and farmers.

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- Develop a heightened awareness of career opportunities in animal agriculture and advocacy



TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

TYLA  
TEXAS YOUTH LIVESTOCK & AGRICULTURE

## TEXAS 4-H EQUINE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

JUNE 10-13, 2024 ~ LUBBOCK, TX

EMBRACING OUR PAST.

ENGAGING OUR PRESENT.

DEFINING OUR FUTURE.

Today, the average American is at least three generations removed from the farm. It is essential that the upcoming generation be able to bridge the gap between consumer and farmers.

Through collegiate level training combined with hands-on experience, Ambassadors will be equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to serve as stewards of the livestock industry.



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TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

TYLA  
TEXAS YOUTH LIVESTOCK & AGRICULTURE





# THANK YOU

**To all our 4-H parents and  
volunteers for your time and  
hardwork helping our 4-Her's!**



## CALL FOR PHOTOS!

SEND IN YOUR ACTION 4-H PHOTOS TO BE  
IN THE 4-H TIMES NEWSLETTER TO  
[ANDREA.VALDEZ@AG.TAMU.EDU](mailto:ANDREA.VALDEZ@AG.TAMU.EDU)

